

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 160103  
ORIGIN AF-04

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 160103

FOLLOWING REPEAT NDJAMENA 2241 ACTION SECSTATE INFO CAIRO  
KHARTOUM LIBREVILLE LONDON NIAMEY PARIS TRIPOLI USUN NEW YORK  
DIA 05 JUL 77

QUOTE

S E C R E T NDJAMENA 2241

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MOPS, MASS, CD  
SUBJ: MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHAD

REF: NDJAMENA 2223

1. SUMMARY: VICE PRESIDENT DJIME GAVE ME LIST OF MILITARY  
EQUIPMENT NEEDED BY CHAD FROM U.S. AT A BRIEF MEETING ON  
JULY 4.

2. LIST WAS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE BECAUSE OF THE GENERALIZED REBEL OFFENSES IN THE  
B.E.T. AIDED IN FLAGRANT MANNER BY LIBYA, THE SUPREME MILITARY  
COUNCIL MAKES THE FOLLOWING REQUEST FOR AID: IN ORDER TO ASSURE  
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THE LOGISTICAL DEMANDS BETWEEN NDJAMENA AND FAYA, SIX TRANSPORT  
AIRCRAFT OF LARGE SIZE WITH CREWS, IF POSSIBLE WITH REAR  
RAMP IN ORDER TO FACILITATE LOADING AND OFF-LOADING OPERATIONS  
WHETHER FREIGHT (LOADING PALETTES ARE ALSO REQUESTED) OR VEHICLES.

NOTE: CHARACTERISTICS OF THE AIRFIELD AT FAYA (WHICH DETERMINES  
THE TYPE OF AIRCRAFT TO BE UTILIZED) ALTITUDE - 235 METERS,

DIRECTION OF RUNWAY -06 BY 24. LENGTH AND WIDTH - 2,300 METERS BY 50 METERS.

FOR CLOSE AIR SUPPORT - 6 FIGHTER BOMBER AIRCRAFT SUCH AS B-26 WITH CREWS.

FOR HELICOPTER SUPPORT: A) 12 CARGO HELICOPTERS CH 46 OR CH 53 WITH CREWS. B) 3 ARMED HELICOPTERS UH - E1 (SIC) GUNSHIP WITH CREWS. C) 2 COMMAND AND CONTROL HELICOPTERS UH - E1 (SIC) WITH CREWS.

IN ORDER TO ASSURE PROVISIONS FOR 1,500 RESERVISTS OF THE CHADIAN ARMED FORCES CALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY, CHAD NEEDS TO RECEIVE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT FROM A TO Z (THAT IS, FROM UNIFORMS

TO VEHICLES, ARMAMENTS, MUNITIONS, TRANSPORT, ETC); THE EQUIVALENT OF A U.S. ARMY MOTORIZED BATTALION OR THE BEST MECHANIZED (UNITS)(A.P.C.).

IN ORDER TO ASSURE THE SUPPLY OF FUEL FOR GROUND AS WELL AS AIR TRANSPORT, CHAD REQUIRES THE SUPPLY OF THESE FUELS AT NO COST OR THE EQUIVALENT VALUE IN MONEY FOR PAYMENT TO THE SUPPLIERS.

FOR THE PROVISIONS OF TROOPS: 50 TONS OF RICE; 10,000 INDIVIDUAL COMBAT RATIONS. UNQUOTE  
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3. IN ACCEPTING THE LIST AND ASSURING HIM THAT I WOULD TRANSMIT IT TO WASHINGTON, I MADE THREE POINTS: A) ACCEPTANCE OF THE LIST WAS IN NO WAY A COMMITMENT ON THE PART OF THE UNITED STATES TO MEET ANY PART OF THE REQUEST; B) IN NO CASE WOULD AMERICAN PERSONNEL BECOME ENGAGED IN CHADIAN SITUATION; AND C) OUR DEFENSE ATTACHE WOULD NEED TO TALK TO THE CHADIAN MILITARY IN DETAIL REGARDING SEVERAL ITEMS ON THE LIST. VICE PRESIDENT'S REACTION WAS THAT HE UNDERSTOOD WE WERE MERELY CONSIDERING THE REQUEST BUT IN VIEW OF CHAD'S STRAINED SITUATION, HE HOPED OUR CONSIDERATION WOULD BE FAVORABLE. AS FAR AS MEN WENT, HE SUGGESTED QUOTE CIVILIANS UNQUOTE WITH OBVIOUS IMPLICATION OF SOME SORT OF MERCENARIES. WE DID NOT PURSUE THE SUBJECT.

4. EMBASSY IN PROCESS OF EVALUATING LIST WITH CHADIAN MILITARY AND FRENCH. DETAILED COMMENTS WILL FOLLOW.

5. COMMENTARY: MAJOR THRUST OF THE LGL IS INCREASED MOBILITY FOR CHADIAN ARMY AS WELL AS SOME SLIGHT AUGMENTATION IN ITS NUMBERS. THERE ARE OBVIOUS PROBLEMS REGARDING COMPATIBILITY OF EQUIPMENT, NECESSITY FOR TRAINING, AND MAINTENANCE. MY IMMEDIATE REACTION TO THE LIST IS THAT WE SHOULD CONSIDER

ITEMS IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER: RATIONS; GASOLINE OR CREDIT FOR  
FUEL; TRANSPORT PLAN; EQUIPMENT FOR RESERVE CALL-UP; AND  
HELICOPTERS. IN NO CASE  
SHOULD WE CONSIDER FIGHTER BOMBERS.  
THIS IS A PHASE OF A REBEL WAR IN WHICH WE SHOULD NOT BECOME  
INVOLVED.

BRADFORD.  
UNQUOTE VANCE.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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